

Washington State Patrol Media Release

Chief John Batiste



Captain Jeff DeVere
Government and Media Relations
(360) 753-5299 – office
(360) 753-5469 – fax
<http://www.wsp.wa.gov>

*****For Immediate Release*****

Date: July 31, 2005
Contact: Trp. Kelly Spangler
Phone: 425.957.2303

Trooper Injured in Hit and Run Collision on SR 167

At 1:23am on July 31, 2005, a Trooper was checking an abandoned Honda Accord on northbound SR 167 just south of 277th. The Trooper was parked directly behind the abandoned vehicle on the right shoulder. The Trooper was sitting inside the patrol car when a 2000 Ford Expedition drove onto the shoulder and struck the rear of the patrol car. The impact pushed the patrol car into the rear of the abandoned Honda Accord.

The Trooper suffered minor injuries, was transported by ground to Harborview Medical Center and later released.

The Trooper was hired in 1997 by the Washington State Patrol and is assigned to District 2, King County.

The suspect driver of the Expedition fled the scene on foot. Despite assistance from the King County Sheriff, Kent P.D., Auburn P.D. and Federal Way P.D., the suspect was not located. However, WSP Detectives have some very solid leads. The suspect driver was injured in the collision and all local hospitals have been advised to be on the look out for this person.

“When the call comes in that a Trooper has been injured in a collision your heart just sinks,” stated Lieutenant Steve McCulley, acting Captain of the WSP in King County. “Troopers put their lives in danger every time they stop a car or assist a disabled vehicle, nothing is routine about the job they do 24 hours a day.”

The suspect is facing a felony Hit and Run charge.

If the public has any information concerning this collision, please advise them to call WSP at 425.649.4370.

Any advances in the case today, Sunday July 31, 2005, will be faxed by memo by the WSP Communications Center in Bellevue.

###

